

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback
October 25, 2022 5:08 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?

Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?

I would strongly oppose the limitations placed on any weapon (rifle) hunters that eliminate the use of scopes and semi-automatic rifles. I would also oppose any restrictions to archery hunters eliminating the use of compound bows and muzzleloader hunters using inline muzzleloader and scopes.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback
October 25, 2022 5:54 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan? Strongly disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts? Strongly disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations? I would support the above recommendations also if this technology recommendation passed. Also would like to see a decrease in guides.

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations? Strongly agree

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback
October 25, 2022 7:54 pm

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback
October 25, 2022 8:06 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?

I band high-powered scopes on muzzleloaders make them a one powered scope like how it used to be bows leave alone rifles leave it alone what needs to happen to cut back on tags and make sure that there's restriction on the animal you can kill like for deer make every unit a 3 point or better let the little bucks grow

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan? Why take away the option to kill cows during the general season hunt like gen deer? This limits opportunity and pushes people on the mountain at the same time. This is counter productive to what you're trying to do which is increase opportunity.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates? So people wait half their life for an early rifle hunt and it's now a five day hunt? What a joke!

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations? Neither agree nor disagree

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback
October 26, 2022 10:20 am

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

I have been archery hunting elk for the last 20 years and the biggest change that I have always felt, is that it should be open state wide for the extended hunt in December- January.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan? I love that we are trying to increase the amount of bull tags to help with point creep. As that is the biggest issue I currently see with bull elk hunting in Utah. I do love the idea of increasing any bull units and adding more difficult but yet good chance to still go hunt Bulls. However I would love to see more done to not kill so many cows each year if we are going to kill more bulls lets kill less cows as cows are the population drivers.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates? Love that there are new opportunities being created and that the archery spike hunt will now only be spikes only instead of cows and spikes.

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations? I agree with adding new hunts that use restricted weapons.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates? Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?

I pretty much agree with most of the proposal.

- I would like to see Spike archery hunters have to start on Aug. 23rd the same day LE archery bull hunters start. It seems pretty unfair to let spike hunters pressure the elk herds for 4 days before a guy that waited years to draw his limited entry tag.
- I would also recommend only allowing multi season general bull hunters to be able to hunt the late season I think that would help with crowding issues on the early hunt and give the guys a little better hunt that only purchase a the rifle only tag.

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations? Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?

I pretty much agree with most of the proposal.

- I would like to see Spike archery hunters have to start on Aug. 23rd the same day LE archery bull hunters start. It seems pretty unfair to let spike hunters pressure the elk herds for 4 days before a guy that waited years to draw his limited entry tag.
- I would also recommend only allowing multi season general bull hunters to be able to hunt the late season I think that would help with crowding issues on the early hunt and give the guys a little better hunt that only purchase a the rifle only tag.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations? I understand the need to regulate technology in the hunting sector, but these proposals are extreme. I don't agree with the archery proposal of only being allowed to use a traditional bow. I agree with not using electronic sights on a bow. I disagree with downgrading the muzzleloaders to flint muskets. I would support only open sight muzzleloaders. I disagree with banning the use of any scope on rifles. I would agree with not allowing electronic scopes like the terminator scopes on rifles.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback
October 26, 2022 3:48 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?

I don't think it is fair for all the people that have been putting in on the limited entry elk (any legal weapon) to have the hunt changed from a 9 day hunt to a 5 day hunt. Cutting the hunt in almost half seems a little steep to me. Especially after purchasing combo licenses as well as application fees each year.

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?

Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?

I hate reducing the age of bulls on le units I've seen so many bulls be 310"-320" at age 4-5 and be 370"+ at age 8-12 my oldest bull was 330" until he was 7 and is currently 14 and is a 380" bull at 12 he peaked at 407" (we have sheds) I love the idea of late archery and reducing the rifle to 5 days make the mid rifle open sights and I'd be very happy with that I think the early archery should be a 2 week hunt that starts in Sept also make muzzloader be open sights again. I hate the general bull hunts because most I've been to its difficult finding any elk maybe make the rifle hunts open sights to allow some elk to get away. I love the hams units and would like to see more of those maybe 1 section of each unit? I would also love to see some limited entry youth only units for elk and deer. Maybe 3 for each species giving youth hunters a better opportunity to draw and hunt a great unit and maybe reducing point creep on current limited entry units and once they turn 18 if they haven't drawn their points just go to regular LE points if they draw that youth le tag at any point they can't draw again to help give new hunters a better chance to draw it.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

The five day early LE bull season is to short for those that wait 20 +years to draw a tag. If you want to get rid of point creep put all bull tags spike Any bull and LE in one drawing and if you hunt you burn your points. Being a non resident I worry that the third LE season will greatly impact the tag splits on the smaller units and make it so no bonus tags are available at all to non residents.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?

Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?

Five day early LE elk season is to short. Adding a mid season LE elk hunt will greatly impact the non resident tag splits and no bonus tags will be available for the smaller units. Put all bull elk tags spike Any bull and LE into one drawing and if you hunt you burn your points is the only way to slow point creep. This should happen with the deer tags also to slow point creep

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

We cannot have any unlimited elk tags on any level, elk tag should be issued for specific units, Divide the 15,000 tags between archery, muzzleloader and any legal weapon.
Implement a 2 to 3 year waiting period once you have received a general season elk tag.
Have a early and a Late any legal weapon season four spike and bull elk, but have it nine days with a week buffer between hunts.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?

Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?

Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?

I do not believe that most technology available for hunters is a advantage disadvantage or unethical if used correctly, rangefinders is it technology that helps us ethically harvest animals at a comfortable distance, magnifying scopes helps us ethically aim for a ethical quick harvest of animals, I do believe there should be restricted units for open site, shotguns or muzzleloaders, it does not matter what restrictions you put on technology there will be those unethical hunters that will still take unnecessary shots at unnecessary distances I do believe there should be restrictions on trail cameras during hunts but I also think on limited entry hunts or bear hunts you should be able to register trail cameras to help in what could be a once in a lifetime hunt. Also limit on guides in the field per Hunting group.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan? I like shifting the LE archery elk back, I would like it to go later, but four days is a good start.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations? I think this is a good start, but you have to do something about long range rifle hunters. No one should be shooting deer over 1000 yards! A restricted weapon season would be cool.

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

I strongly appose changing the general archery tag to a bull only tag. This hunt is already very difficult with very low hunter success. Removing the antlerless option makes this permit useless to me and many other nonresidents paying a large amount of money for near zero hunt odds. I will no longer spend my money in Utah on this tag if this change is implemented. It will be a huge revenue loss to the state.

The muzzleloader restrictions go too far. Modern muzzleloaders should still be allowed incl the use of 209 primers. Elimination of scopes would be sufficient to significantly reduce hunter shooting distance and hunter success.

Archery equipment is already difficult to use and should not be further restricted to primitive style bows only. This is unnecessary and eliminates almost all archery hunters.

The general any bull any legal weapon hunts are already over hunter and I strongly oppose splitting the season into two heavily hunted seasons. This will further degrade a hunt that is already low quality and low success. The increased demand is due to multi season tags which should be eliminated to reduce hunter numbers and overcrowding. Having 15k tags over a short period of 7 days will be a horrible hunting experience and not worth purchasing for nonresident high prices. An unlimited late season is a terrible idea and is just a money maker with no regard to elk hunting quality and experience. This will result in extremely low hunter success and extremely low hunter satisfaction.

5 days is too short for a limited entry early rifle elk tag. These are pretty much once in a lifetime tags and the committee is trying to make them much less enjoyable and successful.

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?

Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?

I agree that no additional technology restrictions are needed

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback
October 29, 2022 9:08 am

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan? Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan? youth tags should have a cap limit.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates? Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates? archery should be 14 days rifle and muzzleloader should be 5 days for deer.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

I think we should limit the number of tags more. None of the hunts should be unlimited. The general season should be set up as a drawing like the deer season, which would allow control of how many hunters are hunting each unit.

The muzzleloader hunt numbers should be kept separate from the rifle, and muzzleloaders should be limited to iron sights. The muzzleloader hunt should also come before the rifle hunt, like it does for deer.

It sucks for all of us, but we can't just keep increasing the number of tags to meet growing demand. It needs to be based on the needs of the elk populations. Even if it means individuals go longer between tags, at least there can be a healthy population of elk to be hunted. Giving out more tags just means diminishing the elk population too much and leaving more people with wasted, unfilled tags.

The number of out of state hunters should be more limited and they should pay more to come and hunt the elk in our state.

It seems like the division's interest in revenue outweighs the interest in the wellbeing of the elk. Managing the elk herds should be more important than appeasing the public with more useless tags.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback
October 31, 2022 9:48 am

**Which best describes your position
regarding the proposed statewide elk
management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments
about the elk management plan?**

Unlimited tags would hurt the elk population

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback
October 31, 2022 1:15 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

Is that plan to kill off every elk we have in utah? Cause if it is, you guys are doing great. We need elk for my future kids. It's unbelievable. I've hunted the open bull unit for 14 years now on Zion and it's never been so bad. You got to change it.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

I agree with the plan as presented, with the exception of an unlimited amount of any weapon tags for the second general elk season. Without limiting either the amount of tags or the type of technology used, this hunt will only achieve the objective of providing hunter opportunity for a couple of years, after that there will be no hunting opportunity because there will be nothing left to hunt, just a outdoor recreation opportunity.

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?

Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?

I am in full support of the definitions of restricted technology hunts, my hope is that they will be widely implemented on limited entry and general season units scattered throughout the state.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 1, 2022 3:19 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?

Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?

I have hunted with traditional blackpowder muzzleloaders since the hunt in 1976 on the Boulder unit. I have hunted with Flintlock only for the last 20 years. With the current muzzleloading season, I am very much at a disadvantage when trying to hunt. I strongly agree with the proposal for primitive weapon regulations and urge the RAC's and the Wildlife Board to implement primitive hunt areas this coming season. I would further suggest that the late Muzzleloader season in November be restricted to Primitive muzzleloaders only. Two exceptional areas for primitive weapons would be the Boulder Plateau unit and the Pinevalley unit in the SW corner of the state. Urge you to approve the primitive proposals and implement them in as many areas as possible. Jim McConnell, Cedar City Utah.
harley.jmc@gmail.com

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 1, 2022 5:50 pm

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed statewide elk
management plan?

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

I agree that the demand for more opportunities in Utah for elk hunting has increased dramatically over the last 10-years. Increasing the allotment of tags and opening new hunting areas and timeframes for hunters is the best way to maximize opportunity for our growing state. I agree that changes need to be made but I do not think the proposal and current model maximizes the opportunity for tags to be utilized at the appropriate times. Managing an elk herd should be done in a way to maximize the growth and health of the upcoming generation, since elk herds are only as good by the calves that can replace them. The current hunt structure and the proposed changes put excessive pressure on the herds during actual breeding/conception, potentially delaying conception and leading to smaller, less healthy mothers and calves the following year. Which would have detrimental effects on the herds over multiple years.

It all comes down to these few points.

Peak "rut" is not peak breeding time.

The elk conception window is far later in the season than most people realize.

The breeding windows for cow elk are extremely narrow and can easily be missed.

Missing the breeding window will cause cow elk (which are seasonally polyestrous cyclers) to cycle again later in the year.

Later cycling causes calves to continue nursing late into the fall.

If cows nurse later, it will affect their ability to have "normal cycles".

Studies have shown that elk will not cycle if the cows have inadequate nutrition weight or increased stress.

The current proposal puts excessive pressure on elk herds when a majority of elk are breeding.

It is my professional opinion and from the data I have collected that the new proposal would not yield the results many think it would. If we want to maximize opportunities and success rate while managing general and trophy units, we need to look at the science behind breeding.

**Which best describes your position
regarding the proposed hunting
seasons and dates?**

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?

I agree that the demand for more opportunities in Utah for elk hunting has increased dramatically over the last 10-years. Increasing the allotment of tags and opening new hunting areas and timeframes for hunters is the best way to maximize opportunity for our growing state. I agree that changes need to be made but I do not think the proposal and current model maximizes the opportunity for tags to be utilized at the appropriate times. Managing an elk herd should be done in a way to maximize the growth and health of the upcoming generation, since elk herds are only as good by the calves that can replace them. The current hunt structure and the proposed changes put excessive pressure on the herds during actual breeding/conception, potentially delaying conception and leading to smaller, less healthy mothers and calves the following year. Which would have detrimental effects on the herds over multiple years.

It all comes down to these few points.

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Studies have shown that elk will not cycle if the cows have inadequate nutrition weight or increased stress.

The current proposal puts excessive pressure on elk herds when a majority of elk are breeding.

It is my professional opinion and from the data I have collected that the new proposal would not yield the results many think it would. If we want to maximize opportunities and success rate while managing general and trophy units, we need to look at the science behind breeding.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 1, 2022 7:18 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

I like decreasing the average age of harvested bulls so more tags can be issued. Especially since 96% of elk will reach their size at 6.5 years. Sounds like a no brainer. I like the Wasatch unit example. I hunt Wasatch because I want to hunt elk more than once in my life.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

I would like to see the early rifle elk limited entry hunts phased out over a 5-7 year time frame. The rifles we are currently using during this time frame is more aligned with a selection process than hunting. If any hunt is to be conducted during the heart of the elk rut it should be some type of archery or primitive weapon hunt that puts a higher degree of difficulty of harvesting an elk. I would still like to see more of a move to transition more units to have primitive weapon hunts making up the bulk of the seasons to allow for more opportunity. Also trying to move a couple more LE units with good elk populations and good public land access to general season hunts. With the current structure the Uintas is really the only area in the state that has this criteria and receiving the bulk of the hunting pressure because of it. I understand this is tough to do because both residents and biologists alike are protective of these areas for big bulls and are afraid of change. Overall I like the direction the elk management plan is heading though.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime hunt proposals?

The only problem I have is that I think we should be making the rifle hunts more difficult as well. I am fine making the archery hunts more difficult and I understand that is how it was presented to allow for additional hunting opportunities, but the fact we are moving hunting dates around to further limit an already inferior weapon to the rifle because we are afraid of offending rifle hunters is a little comical.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?

I really like the change in the season dates on shortening the early rifle and adding the 4 days to arch, also reducing the timeframe on HAMS hunt and moving into Nov. I like the addition of more general season any bull units as well. I am also glad to see discontinuing the extended archery hunts in So. Utah. Hopefully we learned from this and next time we look at introducing a new hunt with boundaries that are largely private land we do a better job of discussing it with as many landowners within those boundaries as we can instead of listening 1-2 disgruntled landowners. I know both these areas very well and own land within one of the areas and was very opposed to them when recommended in the first place because of the reasons sighted by Dax. I also was in contact with other residents and landowners that were opposed to them. I just think we could've avoided the issues if we would've done a better job in advance surveying the people it was going to affect.

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?

Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?

I like the defined limited weapons as they are presented. The longbow went a little far in my opinion but I think it accomplishes the goal of offering more opportunity without diminishing the resource. I would love to see entire units go to limited weapon seasons incorporating the limited rifle seasons.

I think we should definitely regulate the use of radios in the field to aid in the take of big game. I know this is very difficult to regulate or enforce but it would keep the honest hunters honest.

I would also support removing scopes on ALL muzzleloaders seasons. The excuse I always here is that it makes no difference on harvest success so why limit them, but I see it the other way, why did we allow it if hunters are still able to maintain the same harvest success. I have hunted with both and I can tell you 100% using a magnified scope on a muzzleloader is not primitive and DOES make it easier to harvest animals. Please try and remove the scopes off of ALL muzzleloaders and if muzzleloader enthusiasts want to hunt with a muzzleloader but cant see through open sights go back to allowing scopes on muzzleloaders during rifle seasons as was allowed in the past. After all, a scoped muzzleloader has more in common with a rifle than muzzleloader when it comes to effective killing range.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

While we all can agree point creep is a problem. The elk plan as presented looks at everything except the point system.

If you look at the 2022 limited elk draw results, those applicants with 25 to 28 points drew 75 permits. Applicants with 0 points drew 71 permits. Make the points system a true point system where the highest point applicants draw the tags. This plan cuts tags for the early rifle to 10% of the tags and makes the odds for the top point holders worse. I highly doubt the top end point holders are going to burn 22 to 28 points to hunt LE bulls in a general season atmosphere with spike hunters. If an applicant doesn't want to wait 28 years to draw the plan adds opportunity with the new hunts to account for that. In 2022 there were 75,925 applicants and 3,117 permits. With the new age objectives, the estimate is tags could be raised 50% to approximately 4,675. With a true point system those 75,925 applicants would be drawn out in 16.24 years.

At this point you probably think this guy has a ton of points. I have zero elk points. I drew in 2009 with 18 points. I consider it a once in a lifetime hunt. I have helped some tag holders in their 70's the last few years who were limited physically due to their age. Every one of them said "if only I would have drawn a few years ago". I totally agree we need address point creep, just do it in a manner that is fair to our parents and grandparents as well as kids and grandkids.

I appreciate the time and effort the committee put into the elk plan. I know it's impossible to make everyone happy when dealing with a limited resource.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?

Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?

I understand putting the mid-season hunt with the spike hunt was intended to make it harder. I think it would be more tempting to applicants if the spike hunt was shortened to 6 days and the last 6 days the limited entry hunters had it to their selves.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan? You don't give a [REDACTED] about public opinion. You'll keep screwing up our elk herds all in the name of fattening your pockets with our money. Don't pretend you won't just do whatever the [REDACTED] you want.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime hunt proposals? Don't care. You suck.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates? Don't care. You suck.

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations? [REDACTED] you. The hunt In utah has been killed by your greed and you make it harder unnecessarily. You're stupid.

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations? Don't care. You suck.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 3, 2022 6:32 am

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?

Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?

I have ben archery hunting for 40 years i have only shot 4 spikes it is almost impossible to get a spike out of a heard. if you make archery elk bull only all quit its not worth it. its to hard to get a spike out of a heard. I KNOW YOU DONT CARE

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

This management plan is not even close to being called management. Season dates, changes, two different seasons/weeks. Having Unlimited permits for youth AND the second week is RIDICULOUS. I'd rather have a draw system than have UNLIMITED permits in any general season Elk hunt. So my recommendation would be keep giving 15,000 any bull and 15,000 spike only permits and 15,000 YOUTH permits for either spike or any bull. THOSE WHO "WANT" ELK PERMITS WILL GET IN LINE OR ONLINE TO PURCHASE THEIR PERMITS, THAT IS THEIR "OPPORTUNITY." UNLIMITED tag suggestion is ASININE!! KEEP THE SAME THING WE'VE BEEN DOING. It's not about opportunity, its about management and having elk to hunt. PLEASE DO NOT Change the General season elk seasons or have two different rifle weeks. OR unlimited tags PERIOD for youth OR second week. I hunted the full season for rifle any bull this year and there is not enough elk for your "OPPORTUNITY" recommendation. You will ruin the elk herds and wildlife and the landscape if you do so. PLEASE KEEP THE SAME SEASON DATED AND NUMBERS FOR GENERAL SPIKE AND GENERAL ANY BULL AND LOWER THE QUOTA FOR YOUTH TO 15,000 INSTEAD OF UNLIMITED.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?

This management plan is not even close to being called management. Season dates, changes, two different seasons/weeks. Having Unlimited permits for youth AND the second week is RIDICULOUS. I'd rather have a draw system than have UNLIMITED permits in any general season Elk hunt. So my recommendation would be keep giving 15,000 any bull and 15,000 spike only permits and 15,000 YOUTH permits for either spike or any bull. THOSE WHO "WANT" ELK PERMITS WILL GET IN LINE OR ONLINE TO PURCHASE THEIR PERMITS, THAT IS THEIR "OPPORTUNITY." UNLIMITED tag suggestion is ASININE!! KEEP THE SAME THING WE'VE BEEN DOING. It's not about opportunity, its about management and having elk to hunt. PLEASE DO NOT Change the General season elk seasons or have two different rifle weeks. OR unlimited tags PERIOD for youth OR second week. I hunted the full season for rifle any bull this year and there is not enough elk for your "OPPORTUNITY" recommendation. You will ruin the elk herds and wildlife and the landscape if you do so. PLEASE KEEP THE SAME SEASON DATED AND NUMBERS FOR GENERAL SPIKE AND GENERAL ANY BULL AND LOWER THE QUOTA FOR YOUTH TO 15,000 INSTEAD OF UNLIMITED.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan? I applaud the Division, RAC, and Wildlife Board for their ongoing work. LE bull elk tags are very popular in Utah. The more tags that can be issued the better. I agree with less days for Early rifle LE bull elk hunts. Thank you for listening to the hunters that submitted feedback from the survey.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan? I applaud the Division, RAC, and Wildlife Board for their ongoing work. LE bull elk tags are very popular in Utah. The more tags that can be issued the better. I agree with less days for Early rifle LE bull elk hunts. Thank you for listening to the hunters that submitted feedback from the survey.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?

Dear Southern Region RAC Members,

I am writing these comments in opposition to the proposed changes to Administrative Rule R657-5 as recommended by the DWR Technology Committee.

First I would like to commend you and the DWR for creating the HAMS Elk Hunt on the Barney Top. I had the opportunity to participate in that hunt this year with a relative who drew the tag. It is a challenging area and a very challenging hunt which is awesome, and I think it is exactly what you had in mind when you created it. I also understand this hunt strategy was also intended to help reduce point creep for limited entry elk hunting.

In my opinion this hunt should remain the way it is with no further weapon restrictions for the following reasons.

- a. It is already a challenging enough hunt with the current restrictions. I would assume the success ratio is fairly low especially for a good bull.
- b. The current restrictions will be more effective in reducing point creep because the proposed restrictions cater to a very limited and select group of hunters. Those hunters could still hunt with those weapons on a HAMS hunt without an unfair advantage.
- c. The new restrictions could result in a greater number of wounded animals and possibly multiple wounded animals from a single hunter with the extended season dates.

The HAMS hunt with the current restrictions is a new hunt and recommend that you wait a few more years before you consider making further changes to such a new hunt.

Thank you for your service and your commitment to the RAC process. We are lucky to live in such a great State with so many hunting opportunities.

Sincerely,

Dave Black

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 5, 2022 10:00 am

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?

Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?

Please pass the technology committee's proposal as presented by the division! It is a win-win! It preserves opportunities for hunters to use their modern gear while creating situations for primitive weapon use. If I were to make an amendment, I would define muzzleloaders as, "Only capable to be loaded from the muzzle, firing a patched round ball with loose powder by means of an external, side mounted ignition system".

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

Over the years we have watched the elk, deer, antelope and other species dramatically decline because of the mismanagement of the herds. As I grew from a youth of 12, I looked forward to the years I could hunt big game when I was 16. During the years from 12 to 15, I continued to hunt ducks, pheasants, doves, sage grouse, other small game, and fishing because my father continued to instill in us as youth a love for the outdoors, hunting, and fishing. As I have grown older we have almost completely lost the pheasants except for the ones that are planted each year so the youth can have a hunt. I remember when we hunted with our parents and years after when we could hunt that the Pahvant Mt. range which produced some of the largest mule deer I have ever seen. We could ride out and see deer around each bend in the road and many that would score 160 or higher. Now you are lucky to see a 2 point or spike when you go for a ride. Since you introduced youth hunting, doe and cow hunts, and many other special other hunts, it seem that the only thing that drives the division is money not management. I would like to quote your own words "Having more does in the heard will result in more fawns being born. Having more fawns will help ensure that these hears remain strong and healthy into the future." With this you continue to have more doe and cow hunts, and other special hunts which does nothing than the opposite of your own methodology. I have tried for 25 years to draw an elk tag, and my brother 24 years, in the hopes to draw a limited entry bull tag and harvest a large bull and then have a chance at a limited entry buck in my lifetime. Because of the allowances you have made for youth 12 to 15 to enter the pool our chances have declined dramatically. These kids should be allowed to hunt when they are 16 and more responsible in the field. I would not mind if they were allowed to purchase bonus points from 12 to 15 and then able to enter the draw with the rest of the population. It seems to me, and I am not alone in this belief, that all you are interested in is selling lots of tags, and many for more money that I will ever earn in a lifetime, pleasing the landowners and cattle men all in the name of making lots of money. I have done my scouting and found a bull that had survived the hunts. this gave me hope that if I were really really lucky to draw a tag next year that I could harvest this bull. I just found out that that bull has been harvested by a high dollar hunter. I also feel we need to get back to the old ways of hunting in real fair chase fashion. No long range guns. No special archery or "primitive" weapons. Your philosophy seems to be, just make money. I feel you need to take a step back and reevaluate your thoughts and management strategies like they were in the past. We all might have better hunts, and enjoy the outdoors more.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

I strongly disagree with the following changes to any bull any legal weapon elk hunt. #1 making the any bull elk hunt that is currently a single hunt of 13 days into two separate hunts only 7 days long. #2 give out 15k tags for the first hunt in the first week. #3 give unlimited tags to the second hunt in the second week.

Here are my reasons to leave any bull elk any legal weapon hunt alone. First, this huge demand increase is a result of COVID as Dax Mangus mentioned in the presentation, in the past it took a couple months and now it takes hours to sell out of all elk tags. This is not a long term demand and we should not be drastically changing the elk hunts and Utah's elk strategy around this. Second, there are already too many people. Up by flaming gorge where I hunt you are required to drop your trailer before the hunt starts otherwise you are camping on the road. The proposed changes will make this much worse. Third, this hunt already has a very low success rate. In the Big Game Annual Report of 2020 under "Statewide elk harvest statistics, Utah 19761-2020" in 2020 only 4214 bull elk were taken in the general season harvest and there were 40102 hunters afield which is only a 10.5% success rate. Adding unlimited tags will only decrease the success rate in this hunt. Fourth, with 15k tags in the first hunt and unlimited tags in the second hunt we are increasing stress and pressure on the elk which I think will ultimately start the decline of our elk herd populations due to the thousands of hunters and elk not having safe places to rest except on private land. Then elk hunting will really be in a pickle when the herd numbers decline. Fifth, I believe there will be more conflicts with private landowners as there are no safe spots for the elk and well meaning elk hunters will take a not so good shot at an elk near the private/public boundaries and the wounded elk crosses over into private land.

Elk and other animals are a resource to be used and taken care of but it is a limited resource. Therefore, I object to any and all hunts where there are an unlimited number of tags that treat elk as an unlimited resource. The great American bison were once treated as an unlimited resource and as such were almost extinct. Let's make sure history does not repeat itself.

Please do not go forward with the changes to the any bull any weapon elk hunt. I do acknowledge there is more demand for elk hunting, though I think it's only temporary and short term and to solve this I would suggest we make the elk hunts where hunters are only eligible to do an elk hunt every 2 years. This will protect our elk more and still gives opportunity to all those who want to elk hunt every other year.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

I am concerned with the proposed elk management plan for the following reasons.

1. Splitting the hunt into two one week hunts makes it so there is a shorted hunt period to participate in elk hunting.
2. By drastically increasing the number of elk tags (for the first week) will make the public hunting areas even more crowded and difficult to find camping spots let alone hunting spots.
3. By creating an unlimited number of elk tags (for the second week) will do nothing more than continue to decrease the elk herds and continue to make elk hunts, beginning next season and forward, even more difficult.

I don't believe that we need to make the general elk hunt as difficult to obtain a tag as our limited entry hunts, but I do have great concern in drastically increasing the general elk tag amounts. I say this as a relatively new hunter (5ish years) that has low hopes of actually acquiring enough limited entry points to participate in limited entry elk hunts, and wish to still have at least a chance of being successful in both participating in each general season elk hunt annually and being successful in harvesting an elk for myself occasionally.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan? Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan? 4500 multi species permits are way to many! You will be loosing me as an elk hunter due to overcrowding if this continues! Every hunter I talked to had this permit and had hunted all seasons!!! I think you may have a financial fix to your problems. So many hunters in the field that drives elk into the deepest canyons so harvest is extremely low but revenue is high!

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates? Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates? Unlimited tags really??

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations? 60/40 is acceptable but why just moose and prong horn? Elk and deer should also be at a minimum of 60/40 if not 50/50. Also it is suspected a lot of these land owners control the water and cut off public land so the wildlife return to private land before the hunts start! Again this is all about the almighty dollar!

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

When division officials make comments like (@34:55) that the max average bull elk size is 320 BC it creates trust and PR problems. The average BC score on 5.5-6.0 elk in Utah is much higher than 320. Please push them to address these type of comments - it is not helpful.

With the option for more last-minute alternate draws, recommend letting 5 to 10 of the alternates know in advance that they are alternates and could be notified if and once they alternate tag becomes available.

Please vote against the Paunsaugunt changing to any bull, this just contributes to the point creep. Manage it for the same 5.5-6.0 age class. I has been and can be restored to a great elk unit.

We should minimize spike hunts to maximize the number of 5.5-6.0 age bulls on the LE hunts. Propose resting units every other year by not having spike hunts on even/odd years depending on the units (ie Nebo spike on odd years and not even, Wasatch spike on even and not odd).

Please vote against all spring cow elk hunts. The only reason to hunt spring cows would be in the case of serious overpopulation issues. With he state being under objective, minimize cow hunts and oppose spring hunts.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?

Somewhat agree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?

Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?

Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?

We need to continue to support fair chase activities, best to implement restrictions before they become standard practice.

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?

Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?

Dear Southern Region RAC Members,

I am writing these comments in opposition to the proposed changes to Administrative Rule R657-5 as recommended by the DWR Technology Committee. (If you have received this twice, I apologize, I'm not sure I submitted it right the first time.)

First I would like to commend you and the DWR for creating the HAMS Elk Hunt on the Barney Top. I had the opportunity to participate in that hunt this year with a relative who drew the tag. It is a challenging area and a very challenging hunt which is awesome, and I think it is exactly what you had in mind when you created it. I also understand this hunt strategy was also intended to help reduce point creep for limited entry elk hunting.

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The HAMS hunt with the current restrictions is a new hunt and recommend that you wait a few more years before you consider making further changes to such a new hunt.

Thank you for your service and your commitment to the RAC process. We are lucky to live in such a great State with so many hunting opportunities.

Sincerely,

Dave Black

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 9, 2022 8:01 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?

I'm against restricting muzzleloaders without telling us why or how it will affect which seasons and hunts.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

I really think we need to bite the bullet and put the multi-season general elk tags in a draw. Competition for them is going to get far worse now - rifle hunters who want two weeks to hunt instead of one will start going after them, in addition to everyone else now who already does.

I would also like the RACs/Board to consider an unlimited two-season general any bull elk tag that would allow a hunter to hunt the archery and late rifle seasons. It seems to make sense because both of those hunts are unlimited quota anyway, and it can provide a little more opportunity to those who aren't able to get the full multi-season tag.

I really like making the general archery elk tag bull-only, with additional cow tags offered during the same season. It's fair to make archery hunters spend their points on a cow tag like everyone else does in the draws.

Thanks to everyone who was involved.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

I think that there was a lot of thought that went into this plan.

Archers choice should change to bull only. The lack of ability to manage how many cows are taken on LE units and there is not a good enough reporting mechanism to manage effectively.

I absolutely agree with the early season rifle hunt going to a five day hunt. There should be no hunt that has high 90 percent to 100 percent success rates. That is not acceptable. I know people with a lot of points don't like this but having that high of success and not doing anything about it would be wrong.

Love the direction that the elk plan is going in and the way management of elk is going.

I think the change of LE units to General season is a good thing especially if you look at the number of tags and the quality of bulls those areas are producing is not worth it to keep the LE

Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations? Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?

I think that the DWR needs to look at not letting individuals that hunt a CWMU not collect or put in for a LE point/hunt the same year they hunt the CWMU regardless if it is through the draw or purchased from the operator. This will help point creep and minimize the opportunity to hunt elk/deer in a LE quality unit and still gain point in the LE side as well.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?

These animals cannot sustain anymore hunting opportunities. They are being hunted August thru January aggressively. This is taking a toll on the ability of these animals to survive on a day to day basis especially during winter. More hunts are not needed for these animals especially in the limited entry units. I feel that the length of time should not be shortened on the early limited entry any weapon bull elk hunts. Some sportsmen have been putting in for over 20 YEARS for these limited entry units and are now being penalized or discriminated against and will no longer be able to experience a quality hunt due to a shortened hunt window. It's not right to have the opportunity shortened in order to add more hunts. It just won't work and the animals will suffer and so will Utah's hunting economy. Please take what I have said into consideration especially the shortened season hunting date.